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step it up
at
Marchdown**
See A&E



Tuesday, March 31, 2009 www.alestlelive.com Vol. 61, No. 53

Senate grants record-setting 72 allocations

By Rosie Githinji
Alestle Reporter

Student Government approved 72 allocations for various student organizations at Friday's Student Government meeting, a record number of annual allocations than any other year at SIUE, according to Finance Board Chair Brandon Rahn.

There are over 200 recognized organizations in the Kimmel Leadership Center. Rahn said of the 78 organizations that applied, 72 organizations were approved to receive up to \$300 in allocations for the next school year. The money from the allocations is spent on supplies for the different organizations such as paper, banners and office supplies.

The six organizations that did not receive approval have an inactive status making them unable to receive allocation funds.

According to Vice President of Student Government Bryan Kress, the amount of approved allocation money this year totaled \$20,840. If organizations do not request the money allocated for use it will go back into a general fund that will be distributed during the next school year.

Senators were asked to abstain from voting if they were involved in any of the organizations when they voted on the annual allocations. Senators also abstained from voting if there was any conflict of interest, instead of voting no on any of the allocation approvals.

"It decreases conflict and also any motives

SENATE/pg.3

Third round of fall registration underway

By Rachel Carlson
Alestle Reporter

With the third round of class registration beginning Monday, associate Registrar Chris Leopold said overall, the process has gone well.

Beginning March 16, students began logging onto CougarNet with their alternate PIN numbers, anxious to swoop up spots in required classes. For some students, the process is easy, but for others, the experience is fraught with closed courses, waitlists and prerequisites.

Freshman nursing student Kim Nylec from Arlington Heights had a sour experience last semester, when she said she had a class moved the week before the semester started. Nylec said she was notified through an e-mail from the university that the date and time were changed.

Leopold said if a class schedule has been changed after the student has registered, SIUE will e-mail students if a change has occurred with one of their classes.

"However, students are also encouraged to check their class schedule on CougarNet several times prior to the beginning of class to ensure that there are no last minute surprises," Leopold said.

After receiving the e-mail, Nylec called the

REGISTRATION/pg.2



Sean Roberts/Alestle

(From left to right) Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift, Student Body President Domnique Majors, Student Trustee Amber Suggs, Student Body Vice President Bryan Kress and field and senator aide for President Barack Obama, Robert Stephan, unveil a plaque Monday in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom to commemorate Obama's first piece of legislation as a U.S. senator. Obama introduced the Higher Education Opportunity Through Pell Grant Expansion at SIUE in 2005.

Where it all began

SIUE commemorates site of President Barack Obama's first piece of legislation as U.S. senator

By Rosie Githinji
Alestle Reporter

Four years ago, President Barack Obama introduced his first piece of legislation as a U.S. senator on the SIUE campus in the Morris University Center.

On March 29, 2005 in the MUC's Meridian Ballroom, Obama introduced a piece of legislation for Higher Education Opportunity Through Pell Grant Expansion (HOPE). The purpose of this legislation was to amend the Higher Education Act by revising the maximum amount of federal Pell Grant dollars from \$4,731 to \$5,100 for the 2006-2007 academic year. The legislation also asked for an adjustment to compensation in the consumer price index.

On Monday, Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift unveiled a plaque in the lobby area of the Meridian Ballroom in commemoration of Obama's first piece of legislation.

"SIUE was proud to be chosen as the site where Barack Obama

introduced his first piece of legislation," Vandegrift said. "SIUE is a part of history."

Robert Stephan worked as field representative and aide to Obama while he was senator and was with Obama when he introduced this particular piece of legislation four years ago.

"On behalf of President Obama, I would like to express how appreciative he was of the university's efforts to make that day successful," Stephan said.

Stephan said he remembered students thanking Obama for working to get money that would help them attend SIUE. He also said he recalled Obama worrying that the legislation would not pass.

"I was personally struck by the importance of the legislation he was promoting," Stephan said. "Not as a supportive aide, but as someone who needed Pell Grants and student loans to get through college."

Stephan said Obama told him he and his wife, Michelle, were still paying



Sean Roberts/Alestle

This plaque commemorating Barack Obama's first piece of legislation as a U.S. senator first introduced at SIUE in 2005 hangs in the lobby area of the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom.

PLAQUE/pg.3



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REGISTRATION from pg. 1

university and got the last seat in the class.

"I was mad because if I didn't call in, I wouldn't have had the class," Nylec said.

Leopold said sometimes classes are canceled due to lack of students. Classes at the 100 or 200 level require at least 15 students and 300 or 400 level classes require at least 10 students. 500 level classes require five students.

The Office of the Registrar schedules the times of the classes based on information from the different academic departments.

"We schedule space according to academic departments' requests," Leopold said.

While it does create the schedules, Leopold said the Office of the Registrar does not control which classes are offered or how many sections there are of each. Those decisions are made by the individual departments.

Leopold said departments have deadlines to provide course schedules to the Registrar and if changes need to be made to scheduling after the deadline, the department must fill out a Schedule Change Request form.

According to the mechanical and industrial engineering department secretary Cynthia Korte, the only scheduling complaints the department of engineering has had concern prerequisite overrides and

transfer student transcript issues.

While the floundering economy might have people taking fewer classes to save money, Korte said the economy has not affected engineering enrollment or scheduling.

"Engineering classes are pretty well maintaining classes," Korte said.

Freshman nursing student Marissa Folkerts from Harvel said her scheduling process has gone smoothly so far. Folkerts said although her schedule was not affected, she thinks the scheduling process could use improvements.

"(Registration) could be improved by opening up more classes to students," Folkerts said.

Folkerts said she understood how last minute class cancellation could be an issue for students.

"It's like, I already scheduled my classes around it and now I have to reschedule everything else," Folkerts said.

Leopold said although numbers aren't finalized for the summer and fall semesters, class enrollment throughout the entire university is up in recent years, as well at 3.3 percent higher than it was in spring 2008.

For those students who are struggling to get into closed classes, Leopold said they should add themselves to the waitlist, but also keep a careful eye on CougarNet.

"Students can add or drop



Hunter Creel/Alestle

Sophomore Edward Smith, a psychology major from Troy, looks up classes that will fit into his schedule next semester.

classes all the way until the Friday before the beginning of the term," Leopold said.

Because students can access CougarNet online at their convenience, the numbers of students in a course can change at any time. If the student is doubtful of the course availability in the fall, Leopold said the summer semester is a suitable alternative.

"If you can't find what you are looking for in the fall, we do

have a lot of those courses in the summer," Leopold said.

Leopold said her main piece of advice when it comes to getting into tough courses is check early and check often.

"Some people might check back everyday," Leopold said. "The registration is dynamic, so what you see online is up-to-the-minute."

Rachel Carlson can be reached at rcarlson@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

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Undergraduates Vanessa Stock and Liz Rose and graduate student Jill Palone speak at Friday's Student Senate meeting to request \$500 for the Wagner Association of Metalsmiths to attend S.N.A.G., a metals convention in Philadelphia.

SENATE

from pg. 1

involved in the voting," Rahn said.

Senator Abbey Fritz abstained from voting on any of the allocations because there were questions she felt needed to be asked.

"I think this should have been discussed some more," Fritz said. "I'm disappointed that these allocations were not discussed further."

Fritz said several people have said Student Government is not looking at what they are spending. She would like to know how many organizations actually use the full amount of \$300 and what it is being spent on. She said she wants to look into the option of lowering the amount of allocation if possible.

"I just want to see if the organizations are using the money because they need it or because they have it," Fritz said.

Edwardsville Mayor Gary Niebur was scheduled to speak at the Student Government meeting, but was unable to

because of a family emergency.

Kress said he would try to reschedule Niebur for the next Student Government meeting on April 10.

Kress also reminded senators that the newly elected Student Government members will be at the next meeting. Elections for Student Government will be held April 6 and 7. Current Student Government will have the chance to meet with the Student Government for next year and will have a question and answer session to try and help the new members.

Kress said the new Student Government members will also be at the last meeting of the year to take over for the fall 2009 semester. Kress said the current Student Government members are looking into oaths of office for the new members. Kress believes the oaths will be beneficial to the new senators and compared them to the type of oaths the president performs during his inauguration.

There was one presidential appointment made during the Senate meeting. Senior engineering major Dennis Doddigarla was approved as the new vice chair for Student Organization Advisory Board.

Student Government approved constitution reviews for the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Engineers Without Borders, pending minor changes.

Travel requests for up to \$550 were heard and approved for Gamma Phi Omega International Society, Student Nurse Association, National Art Education Association and Wagner Association of Metalsmiths.

The next Student Government meeting will be at 2 p.m. April 10 in the Goshen Lounge of the Morris University Center.

Aren Dow can be reached at adow@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

PLAQUE

from pg. 1

more than \$1,000 in student loans every month.

"I began feeling a sense of optimism," Stephan said. "Optimism rooted in the fact that we now had a senator who understood what it's like for so many people across the country. People who have the ability and the determination, but without access to financial assistance, would be denied the opportunity to earn the education that is the foundation on which their dreams can come true."

Student Trustee Amber Suggs said the legislation introduced by Obama is something that should be remembered.

"Greatness began here," Suggs said. "But also remember that here at SIUE it will continue."

Student Government President Dominique Majors said Pell Grants have helped her with

financial burdens in college, and when she graduates from college, Majors said she will do so without a lot of debt.

"The unveiling of this plaque is a constant reminder to students how important it is to graduate," Majors said. "It is also a reminder how much we need to take education seriously."

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Narbeth Emmanuel was present for the event four years ago when Obama first introduced his legislation.

"He truly understood the need to support higher education," Emmanuel said. "(It) is a recurring theme in his presidency. Today is another

moment to recognize Obama's contribution to higher education."

Rosie Githinji can be reached at rgithinji@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.



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The bug is back

Annual wave of respiratory problems, allergies inundate Health Service

By Aren Dow
Alestle Reporter

While changes in weather can sometimes prompt small pandemics of sickness, the most prevalent ailments for students this year involves minor respiratory problems and sinus, according to Health Services.

"I came down with a cold at the end of spring break," junior biology major Julie Senger said. "It was not a lot of fun."

Senger said she heard of other students catching a virus these past several weeks, a claim backed by Susan Grimes, head nurse at University Health Services.

Grimes said there has been an increase of students at Health Services, which is common around March and October. The change in weather causes many students to become sick, and in tight living quarters such as residence halls or apartments, viruses can easily spread. Grimes said the amount of students for March is "no more serious than usual."

Riane Greenwalt, director of SIUE Health Services, said the number was actually less than in previous years. One of reasons may be due to 900 students receiving the flu vaccine this year, and according to Greenwalt, only one of those students contracted the flu.

Grimes said the most common problem students have this time of season are respiratory problems.

Sophomore nutrition major Allison Scobbie said she is aware of the increase of sick students this time of year. One of the ways

she combats catching an unwanted virus is taking more Vitamin C.

While many cases of these respiratory problems are usually linked to the flu or the common cold, this is also the season for allergies.

Junior elementary education major Stephanie Grant from Springfield has seen the change of season affect students as well.

"I've known a couple of people that have had allergy problems recently," Grant said.

Senior kinesiology major Vincent Salmieri says he deals with allergies beginning in March. Usually the allergies can be kept under control, but he also takes extra measures to prevent conditions from becoming worse.

"I wash my hands a lot during the day and take Claritin to try to alleviate the effects," Salmieri said.

The increase of patients has not made waiting at Health Services for an appointment much longer. Grimes said calling early in the morning will grant most students an examination on the same day. She said they also schedule appointments around students' schedules.

One suggestion Grimes has to deter illnesses from spreading around students is a simple and manageable solution.

"We always tell students to wash their hands and cover their mouths," Grimes said.

For more information about Health Services, call 650-2842.

Aren Dow can be reached at
adow@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

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Journey to India



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

In conjunction with India Week festivities, members of the Indian Student Association created a piece of artwork on a section of floor in the Morris University Center, outside the Kimmel Leadership Center. The image, made of colored rice, portrays the peacock, the national bird of India. For more on India Week events, see page 6.

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All hard copy letters should be typed and double-spaced. Letters should be no longer than 500 words.

Please include phone number, signature, class rank and major. We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. However, care will be taken to ensure that the letter's message is not lost or altered.

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Quinn, Illinois close door on budget discussion

Rod Blagojevich's departure may not have been the end in a long run of suspected corruption in the Illinois governor's office.

When the state of Illinois put its new \$58 billion budget on the table March 18, Gov. Pat Quinn and the state legislature had already taken a hard look at the bill in a formal setting the day before. Thanks for the invite, Pat.

A Chicago Tribune article Monday stated Quinn had delivered a preview of the budget to the General Assembly in a closed-door meeting, with enough legislation present to pass the budget and call it a day.

Thankfully, the budget remained on the table long enough for the general public to see what it was all about, but the mere fact that the legislature took themselves out of the equation in portions of the Illinois Open Meeting Act is troubling.

The office of the attorney general states on its Web site that, "It is the public policy of this

State that public bodies exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business and that the people have a right to be informed as to the conduct of their business," in regards to the act, which ensures the public access to all government sanctioned meetings.

Ever wonder why the SIUE Student Senate meets in the Morris University Center, visible to anyone walking by on a Friday afternoon? This is why.

The loophole the General Assembly is taking advantage of allows the state legislature to meet in a partisan format, with members of one party present, in this case, the Democrats, who currently control the majority of both houses.

This act has long been taken advantage of, according to the Tribune, but until recently in much smaller settings.

These caucuses take away from the right of the public. This is our money and our state. We should be able to have a say, or at least have the press available to tell us what we missed.



Allan
Lewis

Quinn said in the article he is growing increasingly fond of holding closed-door meetings as a way to hammer out some details regarding legislation, such as the budget proposal before the public learns of any major details.

There is no problem with Quinn, or any other small group of government officials informally discussing things amongst themselves over lunch, but gathering at the Capital hearing room with a blind eye toward the public is no way to conduct government business.

These Sunshine Acts exist as a way to hold the government accountable for its actions, and in light of previous scandals and overall embarrassment at the state level, Illinois should be the last state bending their own rules.

Allan Lewis is a sophomore mass communications major from Edwardsville. He can be reached at alewis@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

'Earth Hour' detracts from human progress

At 8:30 p.m. Saturday, millions of people around the globe chose to turn their lights off for an hour in celebration of "Earth Hour," proposed by the World Wildlife Fund. This is one of the latest trends in the green movement, in which people are encouraged to "Vote for Earth" by turning off lights in order to convince governments that they need to act on climate change.

According to AmerenUE spokeswoman Victoria Busch, Earth Hour is more of a symbolic gesture. In fact, Busch said Ameren did not reduce its power output during the event. Acting on climate change invariably means government regulation to prevent some human progress. From legally forcing us to use a certain light bulbs to preventing a factory from opening, something will have to be done by governments to prevent free enterprise.



Sean
Roberts

I have no problem with people driving less, sitting in the dark or buying more "green" products. However, when the WWF suggests a government act so everyone must conform to part of their lifestyle, it becomes a problem.

For those who did not want to celebrate Earth Hour, there was a far better alternative, Human Achievement Hour, sponsored by the Competitive Enterprise Institute.

For Human Achievement Hour, people were encouraged to watch a movie, see a play or just go on with their ordinary lives. Indulging in activities showing how humans have progressed is looked down upon by those who support the green movement, and as the WWF says on their website, "switching off your lights is a vote for earth, or leaving them on is a vote for global warming."

People should be free to do what they

want, even if that includes living a less environmentally conscious life. Right now, a lot of green actions are something you choose to do. The goal of this movement is to make sure you will have less of a choice.

For the government to "act" on climate change, to some extent, it must cut down on human progress. Instead of halting progress, we should embrace it.

I am not for global warming. I am for personal and economic liberty. People should be free to turn off their lights if they want, but they should not encourage the government to oppress individuals and businesses in the name of a "green" economy, when all it really does is slow down the constant progress the human race is still going through.

Sean Roberts is a sophomore CMIS major from Port St. Lucie, Fla. He can be reached at sroberts@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

On The Blog

Facebook Flop

Kenneth
Long



"The new layout of the welcoming page has absorbed a Twitter-like compulsion to notify about every new status of friends. While I am interested in friends, pseudo-friends and people I've met maybe once, the new look is cluttered and unnecessary."

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Don't TOUCH

“Suzuki Method” stresses listening to the music before playing it

by Aren Dow
Alestle Reporter

When Megan Maddaleno was 4 years old and told she could not play or even touch her new violin, she burst into tears.

The reason her teacher at the music department's Suzuki Strings Program preferred this was because of the unique teaching style offered by the program. Suzuki Strings Program Director Vera McCoy-Sulentic said the “Suzuki Method” has students listening to music over and over before actually touching the instrument.

“The basis of the “Suzuki Method” is ear before eye,” McCoy-Sulentic said. “Before they ever start a lesson, they have already listened to (the music) 50 times.”

Music professor Susanna Woodard said the Suzuki Strings Program at SIUE was one of the premiere programs to start in the United States. John Kendall, a former SIUE faculty member and founder of the SIUE Suzuki Strings Program, was one of two people who brought the Suzuki Method to the United States from Japan.

Now, at age 16 and in her 12th year in the program, Maddaleno said she understands the teaching method of listening to music before playing it.

“(It's) really helpful when trying to learn a song because you just mimic it back,” Maddaleno said. “It really helps you get a good ear.”

The Suzuki Strings Program has been taught at SIUE for 44 years, teaching children willing to learn the art of playing string instruments, McCoy-Sulentic said.

The program teaches 250 students, ages ranging from 3 to 18. There are 15 instructors providing both group and private lessons, teaching for both violin and viola.

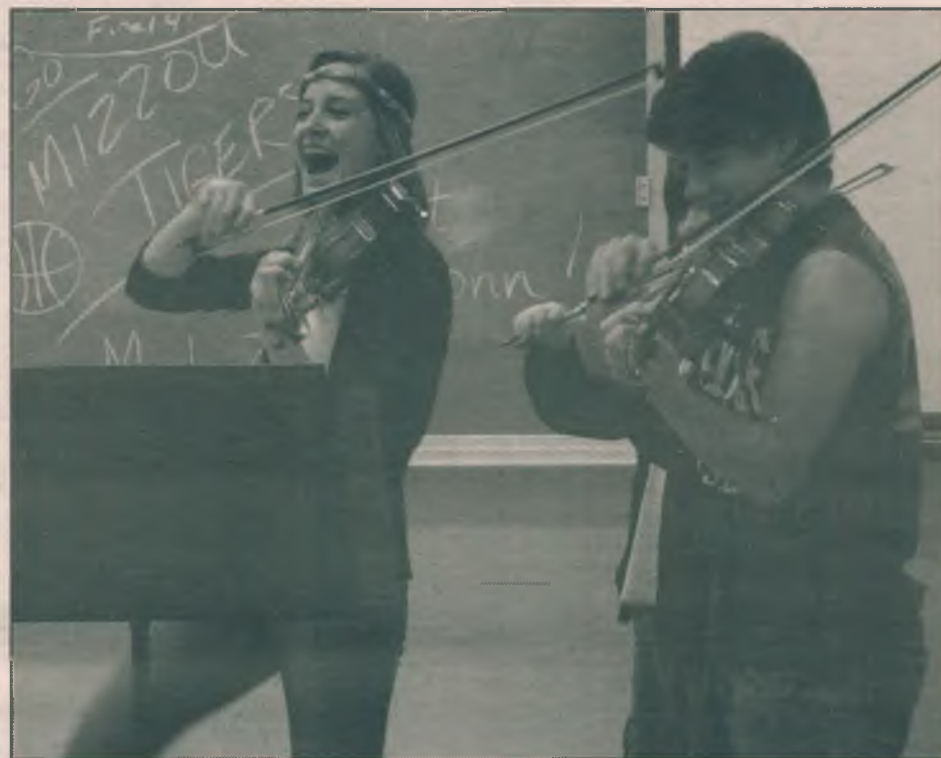
Alan Tiemann, 13, from Trenton, has played violin with the program for nine years and said he enjoys how the program is taught.

“I like the teachers a lot. They explain things super great,” Tiemann said. “They show you how to be professional.”

One of those instructors is music graduate student Anita Kaimal, who teaches students ages 4 to 18.

“The program is (a) great experience because it allows you to teach students that are home-schooled and public and private schooled,” Kaimal said.

Kaimal said she would also like to one day teach junior high orchestra. Kaimal said she has found she enjoys teaching third through eighth grade students, and the Suzuki Strings Program has given her



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

Students practice in the basement of Founders Hall on Saturdays as part of the SIUE Suzuki Strings Program. Students participate in both group and private lessons.

a chance to work with students of those ages.

Edwardsville High School orchestra teacher Linda Bristol taught violin privately before assisting with the Suzuki Strings. She originally got involved after placing all three of her children into the program. Bristol said the program has been particularly beneficial for her son, who has Down Syndrome.

“He plays really well, (and) it has been so wonderful for him,” Bristol said. “I think that anybody, because of the Suzuki Method, can learn to play if you break it down into small enough steps.”

The program combines taking group lessons in addition to private lessons, which enhance the student's abilities and experience to the fullest.

“(The group class) reinforces what they're doing in their private class. It gives it a social aspect, so they have friends to do

it with,” McCoy-Sulentic said. “It makes string playing a social endeavor.”

One social aspect for the advanced students is the “Tour Group.” They are composed of the most experienced musicians and have played concerts multiple times overseas. The high school students have traveled across Europe, performing in Sweden, Austria and Italy.

Program costs range from a 30-minute lesson with a music graduate student for \$415 a semester to a 60-minute lesson with a music professor for \$670 a semester.

Lessons range from 30 to 60 minutes and are for an entire semester.

For more information and for registration forms, go to <http://www.siu.edu/~dloucks/Suzuki/menu>.

Aren Dow can be reached at adow@alestlelive.com or 650-3531.

Annual India Week gives insight to culture through events and food

by Aren Dow
Alestle Reporter

Students get the chance to learn about India and the traditions that have sustained the country for decades during India Week 2009.

President of the Indian Student Association Praveen Dodda said this event has been showcased for 15 years. There is a wide range of exhibits displaying the Indian Culture, such as tasting various foods, displaying Indian antiques and explaining the sport of cricket from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

“It gets more people involved in the culture of India, the Indian way of living,” Dodda said. “It culminates in India Night, which happens on Saturday.”

Dodda said one of the more popular exhibits that India Week offers is the henna tattoo stall. According to Mounika Mamidi, who does the tattoos, the tattoo “ink” is made of paste.

Also called mehendi, the henna tattoos or designs last for about a week and are also healthy, as the tattoo removes heat from the body. Mamidi said that the Mehendi designs can be placed anywhere, including the hands, feet and back. One of the most popular tattoos is the peacock for its ornate design.

Indian food was served in the Stratton Quadrangle Monday to give students a literal taste of the culture. Raviverma Madei, the vice president of the Indian Student Association, said many of those trying the meals were doing so for the first time.

Madei said the most popular dish is the chicken curry, and there were plenty of spices available to add different tastes to the food.

Students can also see and try on the Indian clothing on display at the stalls throughout the week. Dodda said students could have their picture taken wearing the clothes as well.

Another ISA member, Sivakumar Gopal, plays on the

SIUE club cricket team. Gopal explained the sport of cricket to students. Gopal said many students are not aware of the sport, but games are played at the Vadalabene Center. Fielding 11 players at a time on the pitch, Gopal said they have enough players to field a couple of teams.

Also included in India Week 2009 is an Indian movie, “Tare Zameen Per,” at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Engineering Building Auditorium and a mock wedding and reception from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday in the Goshen Lounge.

The exhibits will be displayed throughout the week and will end with India Night which will take place in the Meridian Ballroom. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Tickets for India Night can be purchased at the MUC's Information Center. Tickets are \$13.50 for SIUE students and \$16 for faculty and the general public.

For more information, go to www.isasiue.com.

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31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Concert Jazz Band and Jazz Band Lab 7:30 to 10 p.m. Dunham Hall Theater	Mela 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. MUC Goshen Lounge	My Big Fat Indian Wedding 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. MUC Goshen Lounge	The Pointfest Announcement Party 6:30 p.m. Pop's	Yatra: A Journey to Remember 6 to 10:30 p.m. MUC Meridian Ballroom	Blue October 7 p.m. The Pageant	Goshen Showcase 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. MUC Goshen Lounge
Bollywood Blast 8 to 11 p.m. Engineering Building Auditorium	Cougar Craze 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. MUC Goshen Lounge	Late Night Espresso 8 to 11:30 p.m. MUC Starbucks	The Ting Tings 7 p.m. The Pageant	“Swing Vote” 6 p.m. Collinsville 618-334-6146	STOMP 2 p.m. Fox Theater St. Louis	Cardinals Opening Day Celebration Paddy O's St. Louis



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

Second runner up Omega Phi Psi perform a military routine. The most facially-animated of the fraternities, the Omega's were full of energy and stomped the stage with military precision.



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

The women of Delta Sigma Theta take the crowd to Delta Land at Saturday's Marchdown as they stepped to their own rendition of "The Wizard of OZ."



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

The men of Alpha Phi Alpha placed first at Marchdown out of the fraternities. The Alpha's performance was based on the MTV show 'America's Best Dance Crew,' but they gave their performance the name of 'America's Best Step Crew.' The Alpha's performed two big numbers as two different crews. One of the crews was named the Alpha Wockees, playing off of the Jabawockeez from ABDC.

MARCH DOWN

Fraternities and sororities face off to stomp the competition Saturday night

The members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities hosted the annual Marchdown step competition Saturday in the Vadalabene Center. The Greeks took the stage and did their best to beat the other Greek organizations of the NPHC for the first place title and bragging rights.

First place for the fraternities was taken by the men of Alpha Phi Alpha and first place for the sororties were the ladies of Zeta

Phi Beta. Omega Phi Psi took second place for fraternities, and Alpha Kappa Alpha took second place for the sororities.

Step dancing has become increasingly popular in American culture during the last several years. The tradition stems from Africa and combines footwork, clapping and spoken word to provide rhythm to the dance.

Alestle A&E can be reached at arts@alestlelive.com or 650-3531.



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority performs a step dance to a James Bond inspired theme. The women of AKA had a mission to stomp out the competition at Marchdown Saturday night. The members of AKA were the first of the sororities to open the show and set the bar high for the competition.

on alestlelive.com

Check www.alestlelive.com for an exclusive video and a video slideshow of Saturday's Marchdown.

Women's tennis finally home



Hunter Creel/Alestle
Freshman Maggie Boeckman serves the ball the last time SIUE played at home, on Jan. 31., in a win against Valparaiso University.

Cougars win final road game of the season before getting swept at home

by T.J. Cowell
Alestle Sports Reporter
Heading into Sunday, SIUE was set to square off against former Great Lakes Valley Conference foe, Lewis University, but Mother Nature had her own plans.

Several inches of snow fell in the area and Sunday's match was canceled, forcing the Cougars to settle with a 1-1 record last week.

On Wednesday, the Cougars snapped a six-match losing streak with a 5-2 victory over winless Southeast Missouri State University.

Sophomore Ali Wulfers came up big for SIUE in no. 2 singles action, knocking off junior Elise Nattier 7-5, 5-7, 10-7. Juniors Kelsey Laird, Stephanie Clark and Amanda Niebur all recorded straight-set wins for the Cougars, who improved to 5-9 with the victory.

Laird had little trouble with SEMO junior Kara True with back-to-back 6-0 wins. Clark also

had two 6-0 wins over her opponent, freshman Anna LeBoeuf in No. 4 singles. Niebur a win for SIUE with 6-0, 6-1 victory over SEMO No. 5 sophomore Erika Seabaugh. SEMO won the No. 6 singles match by default.

and junior Elise Nattier of SEMO. The team of Clark and Niebur defeated SEMO's True and LeBoeuf 8-2.

"Our two double spots have been playing well," SIUE tennis Head Coach Kyler Updyke said. "They have risen to the occasion and have had some decent wins. We have paid our dues on the road. It is nice to end at home."

The Cougars then surrendered the third doubles match by default. However, with consecutive victories in the first two doubles matches, SIUE earned the team point for doubles.

"It was exciting to get a point with our doubles victory," Clark said. "Starting out with doubles helps get you pumped up for singles matches."

Wednesday's victory gave SIUE a total of three wins on the road this season. The Cougars defeated Indiana University Purdue University-Indianapolis, 9-0 on Jan. 16 and Robert Morris University, 7-0 on Feb. 13.

WOMEN'S TENNIS/pg.10

"We help each other through, despite being short-handed, by keeping a positive attitude and giving each other support."
-Maggie Boeckman, freshman tennis player

Since the Cougars are undermanned, freshman Maggie Boeckman has moved up two spots to play as No. 1 for a good portion of the season.

"We are a close-knit group of girls," Boeckman said. "We help each other through it, despite being short-handed, by keeping a positive attitude and giving each other support."

In doubles action, the duo of Wulfers and Laird continued the Cougar momentum with an 8-5 victory over senior Julia Masotti

Track and field places third in Indiana

Sophomore Ben Bishop sets new personal record

by Levi Kirby
Alestle Sports Editor
Four first place finishes by three Cougars Friday and Saturday helped lead the SIUE men and women's track and field teams to a third place finish at the Indiana State University Quadrangular Meet.

The order of finish was identical for the men and the women's teams. Hosts Indiana State finished in first place, and Eastern Illinois University followed in second. SIUE topped only Loyola University, who finished in fourth.

SIUE sophomore Ben Bishop, along with juniors Kayla Brown and Eric Mammoser all won events for the Cougars at the meet.

Bishop won the discus throw with a toss of 153 feet and 8 inches. Bishop also finished first in the hammer throw with a distance of 186 feet 7 inches, a new personal best. Bishop topped five Indiana State athletes with the throw and is now No. 2 on the all-time hammer list at SIUE.

Brown fell eight seconds short of her

	Name	Event	Results
1st	Ben Bishop	Discus throw	153 feet 8 inches
	Ben Bishop**	Hammer throw	186 feet 7 inches
	Kayla Brown	5,000-meter run	17:45.54 minutes
	Eric Mammoser	Pole vault	14 feet 7 1/4 inches
2nd	Juliet Aldrich	200-meter dash	25.07 seconds
	Ben Bishop	Shot put	52 feet 6 1/2 inches
	Marcus Evans	110-meter hurdles	15.36 seconds
	Valery Taylor	Long jump	17 feet 7 1/2 inches
3rd	Juliet Aldrich	100-meter dash	12.72 seconds
	Breanna Branson	Hammer throw	141 feet 9 inches
	Megan Dennis	100-meter hurdles	14.98 seconds

(**personal best)

Cougars play in 19th straight road game SIUE adds two Division I wins to the record books

by T.J. Cowell
Alestle Sports Reporter

SIUE went two of four last week with wins on the road against Saint Louis University and Murray State University.

The Cougars had little trouble with the Billikens, beating them 12-3 on Wednesday and notched another road win by wearing out the Racers 11-9 in game two of the Sunday doubleheader.

SLU felt SIUE junior pitcher Spencer Patton's presence Wednesday when SIUE drilled SLU 12-3 at GCS Ballpark in Sauget.

The Billikens were fresh off a 15-11 victory over the nationally ranked University of Mississippi 24 hours prior to game one of the four game-series between SIUE and SLU.

"They were tired, so we wanted to make sure that we came out focused," junior first baseman Michael Hopkins said. "We jumped on them early. Our hard work is starting to pay off."

Patton proved his worth to the Cougar rotation, allowing two hits and striking out eight in seven innings of action.

The Cougars were held

scoreless until the fourth inning when a three-run rally started things off for the visitors. An RBI double from junior catcher Dustin Brooks highlighted the inning.

SIUE broke the game open with a total of eight runs in the final three innings. Freshman pitcher Brian Lorenz

"We finally got together and hit and pitched well in the same game."

-Brian Lorenz, freshman pitcher

came in late to the game for SIUE and erased any chance of a comeback for SLU with three strikeouts in the ninth inning.

Hopkins was four of five at the plate. Street, who hit a team-high .407 last year, led the Cougars with three RBI's. Both Street and Brooks homered for SIUE.

SIUE baseball Head Coach Gary Collins said the charisma of Street's offensive

effort has been seen several times over the season.

"He has been the middle of our lineup," Collins said. "His offense has been spectacular."

Round one of the three-game weekend series between Murray State and the Cougars saw the Racers record the 7-1 victory at Johnny Reagan Field Friday.

Murray State junior starter Chris Craycraft allowed a single unearned run on five hits going all nine innings. SIUE's only run came when Mike Hurt scored on a passed ball in the eighth.

The Racers first put runs on the board in the third inning when Cunningham doubled through the right side to get things going offensively for the hosts. A three-run fifth and two-run seventh inning effort help cushion the Murray State lead.

Cougar senior starting pitcher Andrew Beatty went four innings giving up seven hits and five runs. Beatty is still winless, now 0-3 on the year.

Offensively, Murray State out-hit the Cougars 10-5.

Due to inclement weather

BASEBALL/pg.10



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle
Junior pitcher Luke Vine warms up his throwing arm in practice on their home field. The Cougars get to play their first game at home since the beginning of the season at 6 p.m. on April 7.

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WOMEN'S TENNIS
from pg. 8

The Cougars welcomed Saint Louis University to the SIUE tennis courts Friday afternoon. The visiting Billikens showed little sympathy for the short-handed Cougars, who have had to bump up each player two spots, knocking off SIUE 7-0.

The Billikens got off to a quick start claiming the first four matches in straight sets. Niebur put up a fight against senior Caitlin Bokulic, splitting the first two sets 6-0, 2-6. Bokulic would gain the victory with a 10-7 decision in the third set.

Saint Louis would complete

the singles' sweep, winning the No. 6 singles match by default.

Updyke said the lack of depth is difficult for his players, especially against caliber teams.

"For us being that short-handed, (Wednesday) was a fair outing," Updyke said. "We cannot play our four against their two players against teams like Saint Louis."

The Billikens did not let up on SIUE in doubles, winning all three matches. Laird and Wulfers fell to senior Joe Becker and sophomore Hailee Elmore in No. 1 doubles 8-2. Sophomore's

Casey Miller and Sarah Septien kept the hurting on the Cougars, knocking off Niebur and Clark.

Another default win completed the sweep in doubles' for SLU.

With Sunday's game cancelled, the 5-10 Cougars will now play host to McKendree University on Saturday. SIUE will end the season with Washington University coming to town on April 16.

T.J. Cowell can be reached at tcowell@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

BASEBALL
from pg. 9

conditions, SIUE's proposed Saturday contest against Murray State was moved to Sunday, when it was decided the Cougars and Breds would play twice.

Junior first baseman Wes Cunningham's three-run shot in the bottom of the sixth inning helped Murray State knock off SIUE 11-7 in game one of Sunday's double-header.

SIUE started the game off with four unearned runs in the second inning, taking advantage of three errors by Murray State. Hopkins connected on a two-out base hit that scored two.

Street followed Hopkins' single with a homerun to give SIUE the early lead. Murray State rallied back with two runs in the bottom of the second. A

five-run third inning gave the Racers a 7-5 lead after three.

SIUE tied the ball game up once again in the sixth with a pair of runs. The Cougar effort was not quite enough, Murray State answered with four more runs, improving their record to 18-7.

The Cougars gained a taste of vengeance in game two, winning an offense battle 11-9. Lorenz continued his impressive road trip with his first victory as a Cougar.

"We finally got together and hit and pitched well in the same game," Lorenz said.

Lorenz said consistency is something the Cougars still need to work on.

"One day our bats will be on and our pitching will be off, and

then next game it's vice versa," Lorenz said.

Street connected on his eighth homerun of the year to put SIUE on top 1-0 in the first inning. With a strong wind blowing out to right field, the two teams battled each other, exchanging leads several times over the course of the game.

A clutch three-run triple from Hopkins gave SIUE the lead for good. Junior shortstop Mike Hurt followed up with an RBI double.

The Cougars continue their journey on the tough road to Division I against the University of Illinois Wednesday at U of I.

T.J. Cowell can be reached at tcowell@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

TRACK
from pg. 8

sown university record, but still took first place in the 5,000-meter run with a time of 17 minutes, 45.54 seconds.

Mammoser won the pole vault with a height of 14 feet, 7

1/4 inches.

The Cougars' next competition is on Friday and Saturday in the SEMotion Invitational at Southeast Missouri State University.

After SEMO, the Cougars finally get to come home and compete in the Cougar Twilight beginning at 9:30 a.m. April 11.

Levi Kirby can be reached at lkirby@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

Game Cancellations

The men and women's tennis match scheduled for March 29 against Lewis University was canceled due to inclement weather. The match has not been rescheduled as of March 30.

on **alestlelive.com**

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Elisabeth's experience caused her to re-direct her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra's story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.

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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- 1 Sufficient

6 Early adders

11 Coll. goal

14 Billiards shot

15 Computer invader

16 Cell substance letters

17 Warmer on the table

19 G.I. wear

20 Noisemaker

21 Morgue letters

22 Large blob

23 Der __ (Adenauer)

24 Tall building

27 Information

29 Safe and sound

30 Tummy muscles

33 Small harbor

35 Traveled by plane

39 Disease spread by kittens

43 Draw forth

44 French eye

45 Explorer Johnson

46 Heroic narration

49 Arch type

51 Graphics program tool

55 Balmy

59 Contemporary of Agatha

60 Self: pref.

61 Estevez of "St. Elmo's Fire"

63 Darkroom abbr.

64 Elastic substance

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67 Sponger

68 Highland groups

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70 Pound and Cornell

71 Japanese fencing

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By Annabel Michaels

Williamsburg, VA

3/6/09

- 28 Answer affirmatively

30 Service winner

31 Harmful

32 R-V hookup

34 WWII arena

36 Egg: pref.

37 Unseld of the NBA

38 Gunners' grp.

40 Part of a play

41 Corp. honchos

42 More intoxicated

47 Guitar brand
- 48 More coarse

50 Suitable as food

51 Chick calls

52 Putter Palmer

53 More sickly

54 New York city

56 Composer Berg

57 Demon

58 Body bulk

62 Filth

64 __-de-France

65 Sighs of delight

Sudoku

By The Mepham Group

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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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